# "NEW" PRIORITY POPULATION

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
2002

### RELEVANT FACTORS

- DMH must increase provision of reimbursable services by approx \$17 Million (really \$33 M)
- DMH must focus provision of services to indigents who are in priority population
- County budget crisis
- State budget crisis

## **MYTHS**

- LA DMH is the "safety net" for non-priority indigent population
- Front line staff are ethically obligated to provide MHS to any person who presents for a clinical assessment
- · LA DMH is "safety net" for Medi-Cal beneficiaries
- State DMH will bail LA out

# **BRONZAN-MCCORQUODALE ACT (WIC 5600)**

- "To the extent resources are available, public MH services...should be provided to priority target populations..."
- Adults/older adults "have a serious mental disorder" which is "severe in degree and persistent in duration." This "interferes substantially with the primary activities of daily living...for a long or indefinite period of time."
- "likely to be come so disabled as to require public assistance, services, or entitlements"

#### **BM** Act

• Children and youth "under the age of 18" who are "seriously emotionally disturbed," have a DSM mental disorder that "results in behavior inappropriate" to age "according to developmental norms."

#### **BM** Act

- Impairment in at least two areas: self-care, school, family, or ability to function in the community, AND either occur:
  - is at risk of removal or has been removed
- disorder and impairment has been for more than 6 mos or likely to last 1 yr w/o treatment
- Child displays psychotic features, suicide risk or risk of violence due to disorder

#### **NEW PRIORITY POPULATION**

multi-dimensional definition

- Severe emotional/behavioral crisis
- At risk for out-of-home placement
- · Certain diagnostic categories
- Severe functional impairment

# SEVERE EMOTIONAL/BEHAVIORAL CRISES

applicable clinical states

- · Acutely suicidal
- · Acutely homicidal or at risk of becoming violent
- · Acutely psychotic

#### AT RISK FOR OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT

- Individual child/youth repeatedly engages in behaviors that are dangerous to self/others and/or unlawful
- Environment of child/youth is problematic for evidence of physical or sexual abuse, substandard safety assurances, health risks, and compromised development

# **DIAGNOSTIC CATEGORIES**

Adults/older adults:

DSM-IV TR mental disorder of: - Psychotic disorder with requirement for medication Major depressive disorder or bipolar (moderate or severe)

- Severe anxiety disorder
- Children and youth:
- Psychotic disorder with requirement for medication
- - Major depressive disorder or bipolar (moderate or severe)
- Severe anxiety disorder
- - Severe ADHD, conduct disorder, or oppositional defiant disorder

#### SEVERE FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT

- Adults/older adults:
- - Severe in degree
- - Persistent (at least one year)
- interferes with ADL's
- - likely to become "Disabled"

**SPAD** 

#### SEVERE FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT

- Children and youth: inappropriate
- developmentally

- behavior
- · impairment in at least two domains:
  - self-care, school, family, community more than six months

#### **DIB2DSM**

#### MEDICAL NECESSITY CRITERIA (MNC)

for Medi-Cal reimbursement for Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS)

#### Beneficiary must meet following criteria:

- have an included dx
- as a result of diagnosis there is:
- - significant functional impairment
- - probability of significant deterioration
- · probability of compromised child development

# **MNC**

- Must meet each of the following intervention criteria: treatment focus is on impairment, deterioration, or developmental condition
  - goal of treatment is to:
  - ° significantly diminish impairment or
  - ° prevent significant deterioration
  - ° support normal child development

# **MNC**

- condition is not responsive to physical care

Beneficiary shall receive SMHS for an included diagnosis even if an excluded diagnosis is also present.